

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application No. 10/519,079
Attorney Docket No. 043055

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A treated pigment

~~which is producible by the treatment produced by treating at least one pigment with a carbodiimide-based compound,~~

wherein said carbodiimide-based compound comprises having

at least one side chain selected from the group consisting of polyester side chains, polyether side chains and polyacrylic side chains and

at least one basic nitrogen-containing group ~~within the molecule.~~

2. (Currently amended): The treated pigment according to Claim 1,

wherein said carbodiimide-based compound contains 0.02 to 4 mmol of [[a]] said at least one basic nitrogen-containing group per 1 g of said carbodiimide-based compound.

3. (Previously presented): The treated pigment according to Claim 1,

wherein said pigment has an adsorption part with a basic nitrogen-containing group.

4. (Currently amended): The treated pigment according to Claim 1,

wherein said pigment has a functional group reactive capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group, and

said carbodiimide-based compound further contains at least one carbodiimide group ~~within the molecule.~~

5. (Currently amended): The treated pigment according to Claim 4,

wherein said pigment having a functional group ~~reactive~~ capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group is an organic pigment or carbon black having a functional group ~~reactive~~ capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group,

said functional group ~~reactive~~ capable of reacting with a carbodiimide group ~~having~~ has at least one functional group selected from the group consisting of a carboxyl group, ~~a~~ sulfonic acid group, ~~a~~ hydroxyl group and ~~an~~ amino group.

6. (Currently amended): The treated pigment according to Claim 1,
wherein said carbodiimide-based compound comprises a main chain with said at least one side chain branching off said main chain and said main chain has a basic nitrogen-containing group ~~in the main chain~~.

7. (Previously presented): The treated pigment according to Claim 1,
wherein said basic nitrogen-containing group is a tertiary amino group or a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group.

8. (Previously presented): A pigment dispersion composition
which comprises the treated pigment according to Claim 1 and a dispersion medium.

9. (Currently amended): A compound for pigment treatment
which is a carbodiimide-based compound having at least one side chain selected from the group consisting of polyester chains, polyether chains and polyacrylic chains, and having at least one basic nitrogen-containing group ~~within the molecule~~.

10. (Currently amended): The compound for pigment treatment according to Claim 9,

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which is a carbodiimide-based compound further comprising at least one carbodiimide group ~~within the molecule.~~